

CABOOSE

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MCOR to K
C '25 Page 9

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Volume 75, Number 4

4th Quarter 2025

October—November—December

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www.mcor-nmra.org

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The Caboose Kibitzer

The Caboose Kibitzer© is the official publication of the Mid-Continent Region (MCoR) of the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA). Subscription to the Caboose Kibitzer is free.

All MCoR NMRA members automatically receive electronic distribution by e-mail. Non-NMRA members may request free electronic distribution by going to this web page and subscribing:

[Caboose Kibitzer Subscription](#)

Original, non-copyrighted information and material submitted for publication should be addressed to the Editor, but no payment can be made. Guidelines for submittal are available from the Editor at ckeditors@mcpr-nmra.org.

All submissions become the property of MCoR whether or not published. The Editor reserves the right to reject information.

Deadline: All items submitted for publication must be received before the dates listed below to be included in the next issue. The Editor will attempt to include the information in the next issue, but there may be a delay because of a backlog.

Content Deadline

Issue	Due Date
First Quarter	December 1
Second Quarter	March 1
Third Quarter	June 1
Fourth Quarter	September 1

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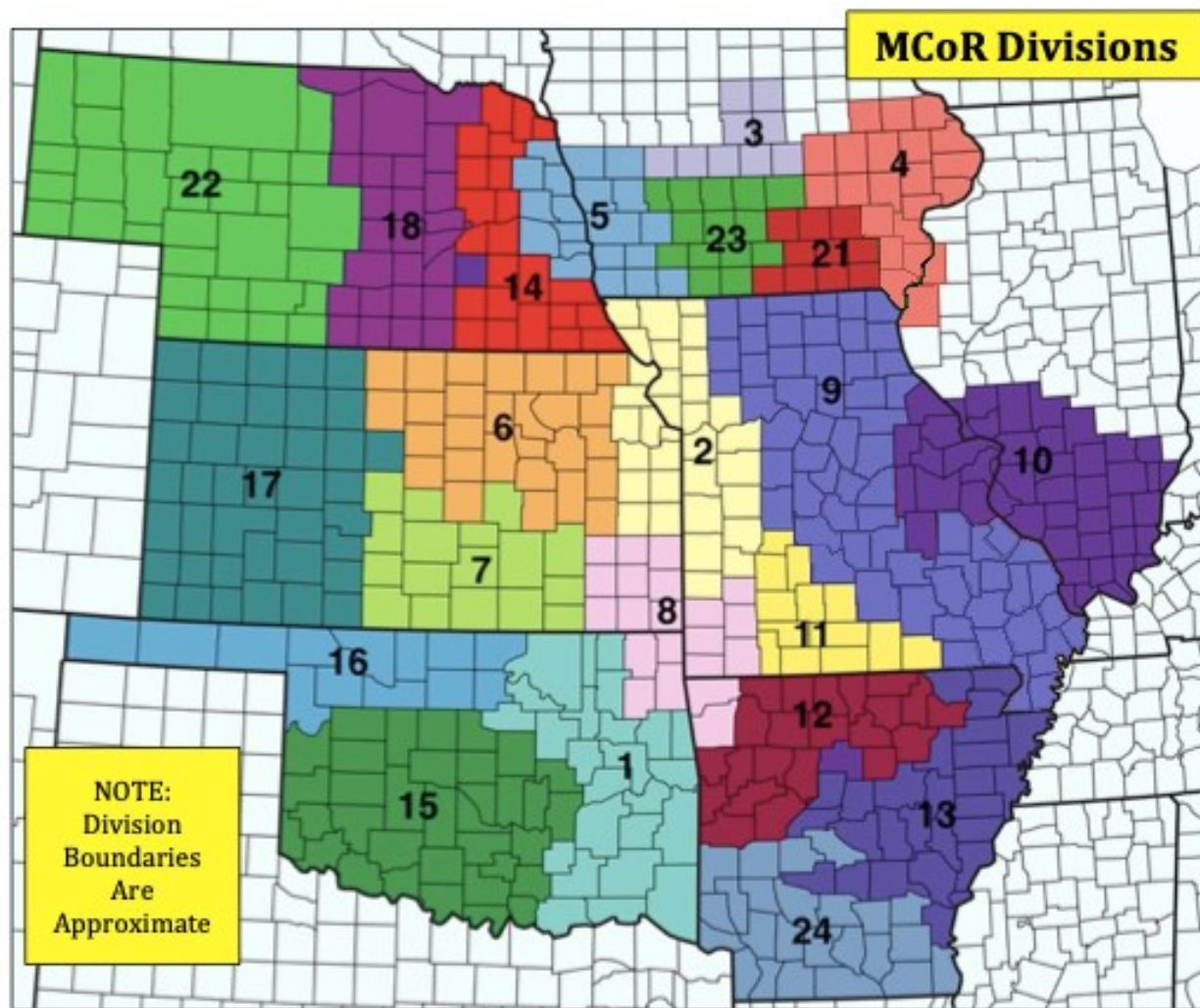
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nmrahq@nmra.org

Application (either online, or printed and mailed in) for NMRA membership may be obtained here:

<https://www.nmra.org/member-services>

M C O R D I V I S I O N S



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11	Ozark Mountain Area	Pamela MacPhail	dir-2911@mcors-nmra.org				
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MCoR NMRA Division Meetings

Note: COVID-19 cancelled many in-person meetings in leu of ZOOM meetings. And now, some Divisions are resuming in-person meetings. Check before showing up...

Division 1: INDIAN NATIONS DIVISION (Tulsa, OK): Meet 4 times a year. Unless otherwise specified, all Indian Nations NMRA meets are held at the new Hardesty Library, 8316 E. 93rd. St. just east of Memorial Rd. in Tulsa, OK. Library opens at 9:00AM and the meetings start at 9:30AM-12:30. Superintendent - Allan Roecker 918-866-5732 or allanroecker@yahoo.com. Web page: www.tulsanmra.org for meeting dates and additional info.

Division 2: TURKEY CREEK DIVISION (Kansas City Area): 4th Tuesday every month at 7:00PM except Dec Holiday Party (Dec 17, 2019), at Lakeview Village, 9000 Park Pl., Eastside Terrace Bldg., Lenexa, KS. For current information: Martin Wade, TurkeyCreekNMRA@gmail.com or the Division Timetable <http://www.tc-nmra.org/TC-Calendar.html>

Division 4: EASTERN IOWA DIVISION: Division meetings vary in dates and locations. Contact Bob Perkins, Superintendent, for more information. rperkins5010@yahoo.com

Division 5: WESTERN HERITAGE DIVISION (Omaha, NE/Council Bluffs, IA): 1st Saturday (except January) at 9:00AM in the Sump Memorial Library, 222 N Jefferson St. (2nd & Washington Streets) Papillion, NE (across from Runza). For the latest, up-to-date information visit the WHD web site at: <http://www.whd.mcor-nmra.org> or the WHD Facebook page, Western Heritage Division, NMRA.

Division 6: KANSAS CENTRAL DIVISION: 1st Saturday even-numbered months. Meetings start at 1PM. For the next meeting's location and program please email dir-2906@mcor-nmra.org or rkboelling@gmail.com.

Division 7: CHISHOLM TRAIL DIVISION (Wichita, KS): 1st Tuesday each month at the Olivet Baptist Church, 3440 West 13th St, Wichita, KS 67203 (13th Street North & High Street). Gathering-6:45PM; NMRA meeting 7:00 - 9:00PM. Info: Dean Lippincott, email dlipp5a@gmail.com

Division 10: GATEWAY DIVISION (ST. Louis, MO) Meetings 3rd Monday of the 1st and 3rd month of each quarter at 7:30 pm at Oakville Elks Club, 2726 Oakville Elks Ln Saint Louis, MO 63129-3239. Workshops (in-person, hands-on) 3rd Saturday of the 2nd month of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd quarter at 9:30 am at West Alton City Hall, 111 Richard Dr, West Alton, MO 63386. Annual Fall Meet 1st Saturday of November at Collinsville VFW, 1234 Vandalia St, Collinsville, IL 62234 Info: <http://www.gatewaynmra.org/division.htm>

Division 14: COWBOY LINE DIVISION: Info: Craig Drenkow, MMR, nascartrainman@gmail.com

Division 15: OKLAHOMA HEARTLAND DIVISION (Oklahoma City, OK): meets in the even months in the Oklahoma City area. Contact OHD Director at dir-2915@mcor-nmra.org. All who are interested in Model railroad-ing are welcome.

Division 17: WESTERN KANSAS DIVISION (Dodge City, KS): Meetings pending a new location. Info: Robert Simmons, Division Director, 620-521-3591. Facebook page "Western Kansas Division"; e-mail: trainman55@hotmail.com

Division 18: PLATTE VALLEY DIVISION (Hastings, Grand Island, and Kearney, NE): Meet quarterly in members homes on a rotating basis or at sites of interest. New members are always welcome. Info: Jim Wells, Division Director, 402-705-1048 or dir-2918@mcor-nmra.org



The Head End

By Marty Vaughn, President MCoR

For those of you who haven't gotten the "official" word, the MCoR has a new slate of 3 officers, Marty Vaughn MMR President, Jim Able Vice President, Bill Humenczuk Treasurer, and reelected to a 2nd term, Jeff Cooper Secretary.

Before I address the future, I want to acknowledge and say thank you to some folks. First is Whit Johnson. Whit has been our membership chairman for a long time, so long that I can't even tell you how long. All those monthly membership reports that the Directors and Area Directors receive each month are the work of Whit. He receives a bulk Region report from the NMRA and separates it into a usable product for each Division. It's kind of a thankless job, but it's vital to a successful operation. Whit's not giving up the job, but I want to acknowledge the great job he is doing. Thank you, Whit!

After 10 years the Region Contest Chairman has decided it's time to pass the job to someone else so that he can enter models in the contest! Ryan Moats MMR has been the Contest Chairman for 10 years and was the assistant for 3 years before that. I know a little bit about being a Contest Chairman having done it at the NMRA National for a few years. The Contest Chairman's view of most conventions is restricted to the four walls of the contest room. For those 10 years Ryan has done a great job. That's a terrific record Ryan! Thank you for a decade of outstanding service to the Region!

I also want to publicly thank Craig Drenkow, the Region AP Chairman. Craig is continuing in the job that he's held for almost a decade. Every merit award earned in the Region and every Achievement Program Statement of Qualifications submitted to National in pursuit of an MMR goes through Craig for review, recording and submission and he receives the approved actions back to distribute. Craig is the Region backbone for the Achievement Program and he's doing a great job. My only complaint is that the Region members need to get to work on their own submissions so we can keep Craig busy!

The last person I want to thank is my predecessor in this job, Larry Diehl. I know that without his hard work there wouldn't have been a Region Convention the last two years. There were other obstacles that Larry had to resolve as President, but I think the conventions took the most of his time and effort. This year's original convention plan fell through at the last minute through no fault of the MCoR and the Turkey Creek Division was kind enough to let the Region combine the annual convention

with their August Train Show. A big Thank You to Turkey Creek and a big Thank You to Larry for his efforts over the last two years.

And now to the future. As of this writing, we still don't have a location for the MCoR 2026 convention. I hope to have firm information on a possible location in the next 10 days. If that doesn't happen, we may be without a convention in 2026.

I can confirm that the 2027 Convention will be a joint convention with the Rocky Mountain Region in Cheyenne, WY May 20-22, 2027. It will include a tour of the UP Steam Shops just for convention attendees, a chance for 64 attendees to participate in one of two operation sessions on the Colorado Model Railroad Museum in Greeley and an opportunity to see the late Harry Brunk's narrow gauge layout operating in the UP Depot in Cheyenne. There will be many more details in future Kibitzers.

We also are working on a location for 2028, and I hope to have a firm commitment for that in the very near future too. More on that later.

The last thing I want to address is vacancies. We need an entire Nominating Committee, a Ballot Committee, a Contest Chairman and Vice Chairman, Convention Chairman and Vice Chairman. Volunteers for these positions will earn credit toward their AP Volunteer Certificate. Information on these jobs is contained in the [MCoR Handbook](#) you can access under publications on the MCoR webpage.

If you have any questions I encourage you to contact your Division or Area Director first but you can also contact Jim Able or me through the contact information on the Region webpage. Future minutes of Board of Directors meetings will be published in the Caboose Kibitzer for members' information.

As you know, the National Model Railroad Association started in 1935 and is celebrating its 90th anniversary this year. But the Mid-Continent Region was created just 14 years later; this is the 76th anniversary of our Region. Happy anniversary everyone and don't forget to share your model railroading with us through the pages of the Caboose Kibitzer.

Marty Vaughn



The Head End

By Larry Diehl, Immediate Past President MCoR

MCoR to KC '25

Proceeding on the assumption that two heads are better than one, we bring you this additional view from The Head End, written before Larry completed his term as President

MCoR has had a very busy few months. Preparations for the 2025 KC Convention has dominated all hours of the day. Fortunately, all things are coming together as anticipated. In my opinion, we are going to have a very good convention.

The shortening of the convention has impacted our offerings. Prototype things were set aside this year and the timeframes allowed for home layout tours has been significantly shortened.

I'm very happy as I believe we have a quality guest speaker for the banquet. We are

going to have a new award plaque design with different graphics this year. We have been able to capture some interesting items that will be in our Chinese Auction. We have the usual books, models and wine.

The Board has confronted some unique issues this year in that we had to dissolve two different divisions and merged the members into adjacent divisions. We have attempted to breathe new life into Kate Shelley Division and hope it works to continue the Kate Shelley heritage.

All in all, being the President of MCoR has been a challenging experience, it took some time, but is nice that it's being passed on this fall. The MCoR financials are in good condition and strong for our future.

Sincerely,

Larry W. Diehl
Shawnee, Kansas
Immediate Past
MCoR President

*Left: **NOT** Larry's parting gift as MCoR President*





Social Interaction and Model Railroading

By Tim Blackwell, Editor and Publisher, *Cowcatcher*

The state of the art of model railroading embodies more than decoder bliss or crafting a scene that would make Malcolm Furlow proud. A preponderance of detailed equipment, realistic scenery and resources to perfectly model a railroad can take a backseat to the flair for steel-railed conversation.

Americans are becoming less social, it's no secret. Just look on, well, social media or the internet.

The Survey Center on American Life said in April that it was shocked that only 46 percent of Americans who use social media say they connect with friends online. We're living in what some call the Anti-Social Century, a time when facing someone behind a silicate screen is preferred over a slap on the back.

These days, debating the huge miscalculation the French made a decade ago when they bought trains too wide for their passenger stations or hashing out a layout operations plan mostly is left to YouTube videos or train forums.

So attending the Mid-Continent Region convention in Lenexa, KS, in August offered a fresh – and much needed – perspective on the hobby.

I gladly accepted Larry Diehl's invitation to speak on the state of the art of model railroading at the Saturday night banquet, and was determined to wear my Cowcatcher hat a little more loosely than usual. Soaking in the convention rather than looking for the next headline seemed appropriate.

Larry billed my industry experience and "down-to-earth" personality (but failed to mention I'm not good at fixing shorted-out microphones). The only condition was that I not spout statistics, numbers or graphs about subscribers. It sounded like a good gig.

Plus I was back in Kansas City, where I spent the first 12 years of my life soaking in the city's strong sense of community, sprinkled with fond memories of Hy-Vee milk and Bunny Bread. Nothing more wholesome served over conversation at supper.

My thanks to Larry and the Mid-Continent Region for the opportunity to be a part of this event. Had I not been there, I wouldn't have experienced the hobby's greatest benefit – fellowship and sharing ideas.

An hour or so after walking the quaint Turkey Creek Division train show on Saturday afternoon I settled in for a hotdog, chips and Coke near the concession stand at the Shawnee (KS) Civic Centre. I joined a few NMRA veterans who were finishing up lunch.

For what seemed like hours, we swapped stories, spun yarn or otherwise shot the bull at this informal roundtable.



Outsiders likely perceived us as a bunch of wise owls (or train goobers, according to one fellow's wife) sitting around kicking push rods. Plausible, but what prevailed was casual, thought-provoking discussions on everything from NMRA standards to understanding why old Blue Box kits are so expensive, especially those missing pieces. Maybe a bitch or two, but overall pretty harmless conversation.

It put a check mark by the NMRA's mission of advancing "the global scale model railroading community through education, advocacy, standards, and social interaction."

Later that evening, I touched on the importance of that social interaction in the hobby, not long after dropping \$20 in raffle tickets on several auction items, including train books and a few bottles of wine. The message, hopefully conveyed by a booming voice, wasn't about us hobby veterans sitting around a table but how we embrace the generation waiting in the wings.

Yes, Malcolm, there are younger modelers out there. While there are no published demographics or statistics on them (bear with me, Larry), rest assured they are out there.

Younger modelers are on YouTube and Facebook building freelance model railroads, running trains, buying cars and locomotives and sharing their pursuits.

Albeit much farther than arm's length.

Yet opportunity awaits for this dynamic group. And it is up to veteran modelers to share their experiences and knowledge of making trains run and scenes pop by rolling out the red carpet for these modelers wherever possible. Encourage them to attend a convention, maybe at a discount rate.

Invite them to join the conversation, it heightens the model railroad experience.

And I've got the wine to prove it.



Editor's Musings

By Pat Hiatte

Where are we?

Railroads name everything, and if the railroad doesn't name something the employees will. Names help make sure trains and cars get to the right place. "Spot the car on that track over there" is of little use (there are probably a lot of tracks "over there"), but "spot that car to the icehouse track" tells the crew exactly where it needs to go, even though the icehouse may have been torn down years ago.

Adding names to the individual tracks and stations on your layout not only makes it more "railroad" and in some cases provides historical context for your railroad but also helps orient visiting operators.

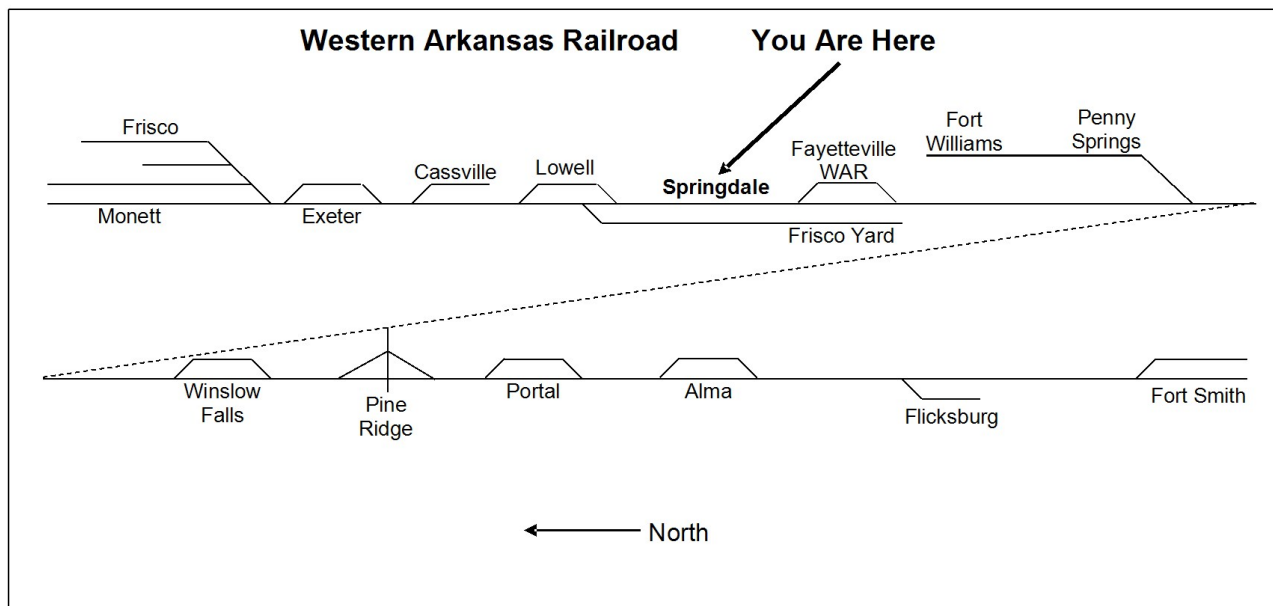
Orientation starts with signage on the fascia showing which way is east (or north) and which way is west (or south) are a good starting point. Add schematics of the trackage at each

town and label them to supplement signage on your model buildings. Top it off with a schematic of your layout including the modeled part of your layout and essential unmodeled locations.

(Some of your guest operators may have slept through geography class or been cursed with no sense of direction. No matter how good your signage, be prepared to remind them, probably every session, that Chicago is west of New York.)

Signage orienting operators as to locations [s especially needed on free-lance or proto-lance layouts, and especially with fictional towns. You know that Goatville is west of Kansas City and east of Salina, but your guest operators don't. Even your regulars may need a reminder.

Feedback welcome: ckeditors@mc-or-nmra.org



Schematic prepared for Jerry Jungers's proto-lance layout show what's where.

'You Are Here' schematics are posted on the fascia at each town



Arrived on Schedule . . . And was gone in a flash!

We experimented with a shorter 1 ¾ day convention. Friday came and was immediately gone!

Short but still good fun. We had 6 very good clinics, needed a few more reflecting “modeling skills” presentations. It is what it is, sometimes clinicians are difficult to come by. We must try harder, but what we had was good.

We had 54 attendees and 16 spouses who attended free. We had a couple of non-NMRA members. Hope we were viewed well by all!

Missouri Model Railroad Museum was a great partner in the show. They showed well to all those who had the time to visit the museum. They ran Kansas City Southern trains Thursday and Friday to support our KCS focus ...

Our model contest received 63 entries. Some very nice models. Hope you had time to visit the room on the 8th Floor. The KCS focus category drew 6 entries and a very nice photo was the top honors ... I didn't even think about photos being submitted. Regarding the contest, Marty Vaughn had his hands full judging and coordinating all the scoring.

That photo won a very attractive plaque. Maybe the “focus idea” category might catch on for future conventions. Murphy's Law, the museum had an electrical issue which idled the trains for much of the day.

Turkey Creek also sported 6 clinics and a model contest with “People’s Choice” judging. Awards were announced early Saturday afternoon. Some very nice models were also displayed in this contest.

Home layout tours were well attended. We had 4 very nice layouts, nearly complete scenery, operational and interesting to view. Thank you to those who opened their homes! ... Jim EuDaly, Mike McLain, Gary Davidson and Mike Fyten.

The culminating event! Our MCoR Banquet went very well in my opinion. The food! ... The food received many compliments ... well deserved ... it was good ... very good actually. Very tasty ... I cleaned my plate plus my pie dessert!

Too bad if you missed the banquet!

Service Awards were announced:

Larry Long Award ... went to Allen Pollock

Kenny Cline Award ... went to Bill Humenczuk

Kenny Johns Award ... went to Pat Hiatte, our CK Editor

The NMRA Presidents Award ... was awarded to
Jim Wells, Grand Island Division, Hastings, NE

The Turkey Creek Train Show was also an experiment led by the Division in a separate location to support the region. It was open to the public and was well attended by over 300 on Saturday, people were in a spending mode! The vendors were not complaining!

Our guest speaker, Tim Blackwell, Editor and Owner of Cowcatcher Magazine (subscribed in 46 states), gave a good presentation regarding the State of the Art of Model Railroading, Health of the Hobby, trends as Tim sees them and Young Folks Participation and his perspective of their “buttons”, noting things that draws the young people to the hobby. I think Tim was very good with an overall perspective and he spoke from the heart of his feelings as a magazine editor. He made some interesting observations. Maybe our hobby has more legs than we realize.

The quality in our hobby is evolving as today’s technology is being understood and integrated into our modeling and operations. Open our eyes and see the fun before it passes by!

The model contest allowed some of the old folks to shine, such as Dave Roeder, Larry Alfred, Al Warren, Allen Pollock and several new names showed that new persons can perform with the best! ... such as Dave Ackmann, John Wegner and Mark Sisk.

Did you see that RR pass created by Jim Marlett? Yes, that was engraved stainless steel ... very cool!

The “Chinese Auction” got the crowd active! Check those tickets! ...

What was that number again?

I got it! I got it! I’m sure I got it! Hooting and hollering! Dan Wiltshire probably walked a mile or more delivering the items.

Did you notice the “wine table“? All 5 bottles ended up at one table. How did they do that?

The jackets Missy Levy donated, Wow! Very, very nice!

I’d say Kathy Shriver dominated the bidding for the buildings, she only lost one building! Builders donating models were Dean Lippincott, Larry Alfred and Larry Diehl ... Al Warren donated the KCS “Spot Location, Switching and Siding Inventory Control” mapping, KC to St. Louis. That Diehl guy wanted it bad! Hope everyone had a good time!

All in all, I wish the Convention had the 3rd day! I think we had to shorten too much such as prototype tour, more home layouts, and a few clinics. The model contest could’ve had extra time for viewing. It felt somewhat rushed for observing and judging.

Welcome your thoughts ...

It was still fun, saw old friends and acquaintances.

Sincerely,

Larry W. Diehl
Your Retired President

The Southern Belle Special 2025

MCoR to **KC** IN '25

MCoR to **KC** IN '25

MID-CONTINENT REGION CONVENTION



Contest Winners

Photos by Marty Vaughn

MCoR 2025 Contest Winners
SPECIAL AWARD
BEST KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN

LARRY ALFRED
KCS ON THE TURNTABLE



MCoR 2025 Contest Winners

PASS CONTEST 1ST PLACE

Jim Marlett

San Juan Southern
Lifetime Pass

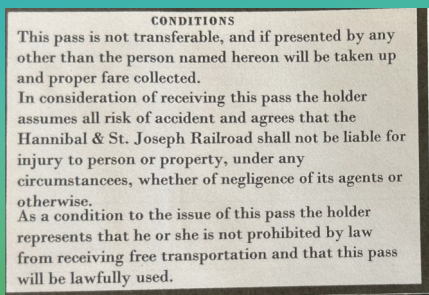


MCoR 2025 Contest Winners

PASS CONTEST 2nd PLACE

DAVE ROEDER

Pass Hannibal & St. Joe



MCoR 2025 Contest Winners
PHOTO CONTEST PROTOTYPE
B&W 1st PLACE

LARRY ALFRED

KCS Slug in Shop



MCoR 2025 Contest Winners
PHOTO CONTEST PROTOTYPE
B&W 2ND PLACE

LARRY ALFRED

KCS on the Turntable



MCoR 2025 Contest Winners
PHOTO CONTEST PROTOTYPE
COLOR 1st PLACE

Larry Alfred

Double Header



MCoR 2025 Contest Winners
PHOTO CONTEST PROTOTYPE
COLOR 2nd PLACE

Larry Alfred

Throwing the Switch



MCoR 2025 Contest Winners
PHOTO CONTEST PROTOTYPE
COLOR 3rd PLACE

John Wegner

Kansas City Southern

"Southern Belle"

KCMO July 1968



MCoR 2025 Contest Winners
PHOTO CONTEST MODEL
COLOR 1st PLACE

Larry Alfred

Gas Station



MCoR 2025 Contest Winners
MODEL CONTEST DIESEL
3RD PLACE

Al Warren

Southern Pacific #9204 SD 45T-2



MCoR 2025 Contest Winners
MODEL CONTEST DIESEL
2ND PLACE

Al Warren

BN #2601 GP38-2B



MCoR 2025 Contest Winners
MODEL CONTEST DIESEL
1ST PLACE

Al Warren

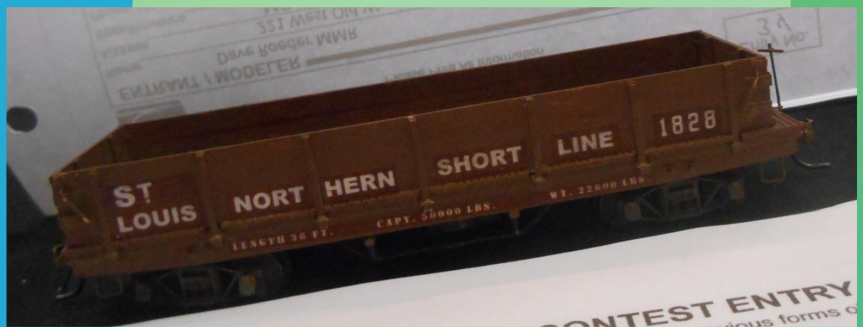
Chicago and North Western
SD9 #6603



MCoR 2025 Contest Winners
MODEL CONTEST FREIGHT
CARS 3RD PLACE

DAVE ROEDER

HO Wood gondola #1828
St. Louis Northern Short Line



MCoR 2025 Contest Winners
MODEL CONTEST FREIGHT
CARS 2ND PLACE

DAVE ROEDER

HO Flat Car # 567



MCoR 2025 Contest Winners
MODEL CONTEST FREIGHT
CARS 1ST PLACE

Larry Alfred

SJM & P Co

High Side Gondola



MCoR 2025 Contest Winners
MODEL CONTEST FREIGHT
CABOOSE 3RD PLACE

John Weger

Louisiana & Arkansas

Caboose #363



MCoR 2025 Contest Winners
MODEL CONTEST CABOOSE
2ND PLACE

DAVE ROEDER

HO Caboose

KEWsh #9



MCoR 2025 Contest Winners
MODEL CONTEST CABOOSE
1ST PLACE

LARRY DIEHL

San Juan Mining
& Petroleum Co.
RR Caboose



MCoR 2025 Contest Winners
MODEL CONTEST NON-
REVENUE 3RD PLACE

ALLEN POLLOCK
COOK CAR



MCoR 2025 Contest Winners
MODEL CONTEST NON-
REVENUE 2ND PLACE

LARRY DIEHL

RGS Snowplow
& Flanger #5



MCoR 2025 Contest Winners
MODEL CONTEST NON-
REVENUE 1ST PLACE

LARRY DIEHL

RGS Snowplow
& Flanger #2



MCoR 2025 Contest Winners
MODEL CONTEST PASSENGER
CARS 1ST PLACE

DAVE ROEDER

HO Illinois Central

Pullman Sleeper # 5235



MCoR 2025 Contest Winners
MODEL CONTEST STRUCTURES
3RD PLACE

DAVE ACKMANN

Monty' Motors



MCoR 2025 Contest Winners
MODEL CONTEST STRUCTURES
2ND PLACE

DAVE ACKMANN
STEMS FLORIST



MCoR 2025 Contest Winners
MODEL CONTEST STRUCTURES
1ST PLACE

DAVE ACKMANN
ROUND THING



MCoR 2025 Contest Winners
MODEL CONTEST DISPLAYS/
DIORAMAS 3RD PLACE

LARRY ALFRED
GAS STATION



MCoR 2025 Contest Winners
MODEL CONTEST DISPLAYS/
DIORAMAS 2ND PLACE

MARC SISK
MONTANA FLOUR
MILLS COMPANY



MCoR 2025 Contest Winners
MODEL CONTEST DISPLAYS/
DIORAMAS 1ST PLACE

RAY BROWN
OAKBORO
HAY & GRAIN



MCoR 2025 Contest Winners
POPULAR VOTE PHOTOS

LARRY ALFRED
THROWING THE SWITCH



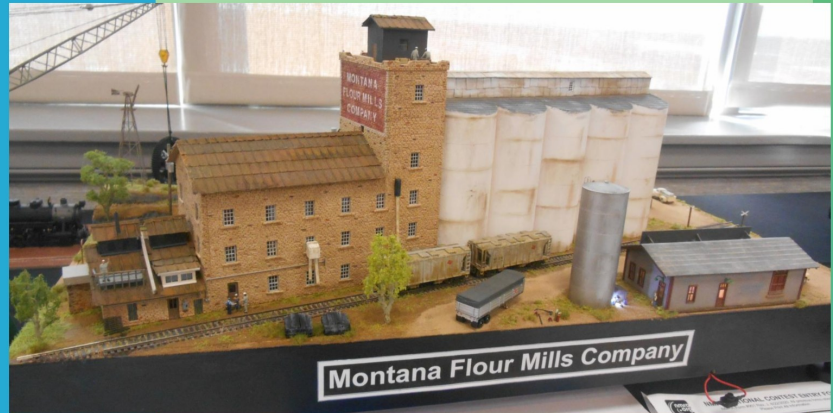
MCoR 2025 Contest Winners

POPULAR VOTE MODELS

MARC SISK

MONTANA

FLOUR MILLS CO



MCoR 2025 Contest Winners

LIGHT IRON AWARD

LARRY DIEHL

RGS Snowplow

& Flanger #2





Goosed in Colorado

By Marty Vaughn, MMR

No, no, no, NOT what you're thinking. This is about the Rio Grande Southern Galloping Goose Number 5.

I'm not an RGS modeler and I'll take a steam engine over a diesel any day. On the other hand, I've completely worn out one copy of [Ghost Railroads of Colorado](#) over the years locating the old lines and roadbeds, including the RGS. I've always had a soft spot for the Galloping Geese. On the wall in my basement is a prized photo of my late father and our late friend Jim Thomas riding in one of the Geese at the Colorado Railroad Museum about forty years ago.

While working with the Rocky Mountain Region Convention Chairman on a joint RMR-MCoR convention in 2027 I learned that the RMR 2025 Convention included a limited number of riders on Goose 5 and I jumped at the chance. And Allen Pollock, Larry Diehl and Ray Brown jumped with me. Lucky for us we all got our registrations in quickly and all scored tickets riding the Goose. The RMR convention also included a round-trip ticket in a parlor car to Silverton. That's a great ride too and we all did that trip the day before the Goose ride, but I've done it many times, like many of you. The high point of this convention was getting to ride in the Goose.





*No backseat
driving needed!*

*Motorman's view
from inside the
passenger
section*





View from the freight section

The Highline



Motorwoman checks the power plant

Yup; still there



Front end of the Goose showing right side of the engine

Turning on the wye



In September 2024 my wife and I were in Colorado and took a detour to go through Dolores where Goose 5 resided in front of the old depot on my past visits. To my disappointment the tracks it rested on were in place, but the Goose was gone. I now know that it was in Chama. For at least 2024 and 2025 the Goose 5 is trucked to Durango in the spring to run on the Durango and Silverton and in the fall, it is trucked to Chama to run on the Cumbres and Toltec. These are fund-raising trips with the proceeds going to maintain and preserve Goose 5. The Goose wasn't missing, it was working!

The Goose trip didn't go all the way to Silverton but went up to the Highline where it did a photo run by, before turning on a wye and heading back to Durango. Most of us got to ride part way in the freight box part of the Goose which is now converted to bench seating for passengers and at the turnaround wye we switched places so we could ride in the bus body with the motorman. It's a different view from that lower level inside the Goose, a very different perspective from the view in a passenger car. It really brings home how low and close you are to the rails.

The photo run by was just at the south end of the Highline. I never imagined I would ever have the chance to stand on the ground between the rails at that point. Due to a foot injury I had to wear a walking boot on the trip but I'm a typical rail fan so that didn't stop me from getting on the ground and standing outside the outer rail looking over the edge. I was doing just fine until someone walking behind me bumped into me and I quickly learned two things. First, those walking cast boots are made to take pressure off your foot and ankle and are **very** unstable, you can start to rock. And second, it looks a lot farther down to the Animas River from the Highline when you are rocking on the edge on foot rather than riding in the parlor car!

The other thing I discovered as you can see in some of the pictures is that I need to find a camera filter that blocks out guys in black cowboy hats who keep getting in so many of my photos. I'd call it the Ray Brown Blocker!

But knowing all that wouldn't stop me from doing it again if I had the chance!



I think I need a camera filter for that guy in the black cowboy hat



Journey to an AP Certificate

By Pat Hiatte

This is a tale of one person's pursuit of an NMRA Achievement Program certificate. Hopefully it will inspire you to pursue one or more of your own, and show how easy (I hope) it is.

This is the second of two parts; the first appeared in the Third Quarter 2025 issue of the Kibitzer.

Let's start this part of our journey with a review of the requirements for the Chief Dispatcher AP Certificate. Underlined items were covered in the first part of this series.

Requirements

To qualify for this certificate you must:

1.

Must have participated in the operation of a model railroad, either home or club, for no less than 50 hours. A minimum of ten hours must be served in each of three of the five categories listed below, one of which must be DISPATCHER.

The five categories are: Engineer, mainline freight, passenger or wayfreight; yardmaster, station master, hostler, power desk; towerman, traffic manager or roadmaster; dispatcher

This experience shall be accumulated on one or more model railroads having at least two mainline trains plus yard switching in simultaneous operation. Some system of freight and passenger train and car movements, including road switching, shall be used for controlling train activity.

2.

The use of a computer to accomplish the following requirements is acceptable.



CHIEF DISPATCHER

The applicant shall also do the following:

Prepare a schematic drawing of a model railroad layout meeting the operating conditions described in

Section 1 and indicate all pertinent simulated distances.

Develop a timetable appropriate to this model railroad, simulating prototype time and covering a period of eight hours or more, during which time at least three scheduled mainline trains move in each direction.

Develop an operating train chart (graph) which interprets the above schedule for timetable operation of the model railroad. Indicate at least one train meet on the schematic drawing required referred to above. Show the position of the train(s) involved and describe the action, giving pertinent time and movement data to effect the meet.

Develop or adapt a system of operation for the layout in Section 1 above, including all the necessary forms and explanations of their use for controlling car movements, train makeup and operation in a prototypical manner.

3.

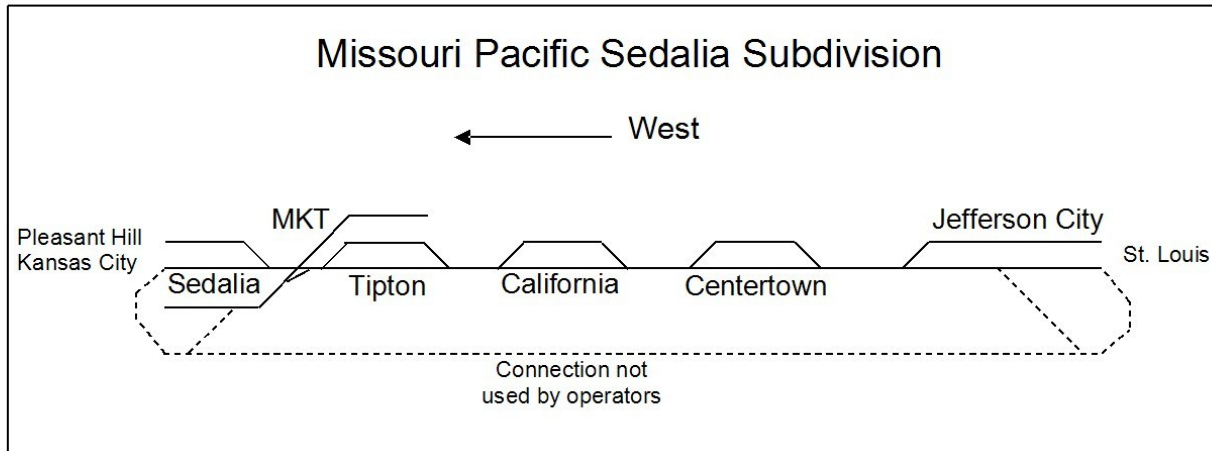
Submit a completed Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) which shall include the following:

- Attachment of the forms and drawings in Sect. 2
- Description of the jobs held and an approximation of the number of hours accrued in each position.
- The signed witnessed Certificate of Operation form showing that all the requirements have been met and that the member requesting certification has operated a model railroad in a prototypical manner.

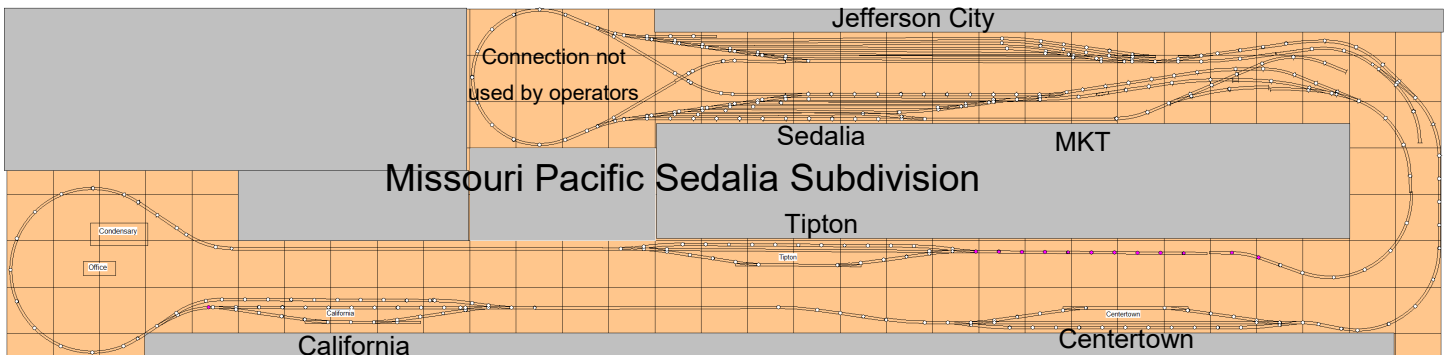
These requirements can be met on one or more model railroad layouts, either privately owned or club layout(s). The Witness Form is available from your Region or Division AP Chair.

Prepare a schematic drawing of a model railroad layout meeting the operating conditions described in Section 1 and indicate all pertinent simulated distances.

Uh-oh. To me, a schematic shows the relationship among locations on the railroad. However, what may be wanted is a track plan showing the physical tracks. Better do both. (This will be a good incentive to do that Sedalia Sub track plan, which I've been putting off.)



Schematic showing relationship among towns



Track plan prepared using Atlas Right Track Software

Track plan still needs work: the addition of distances.

Next Issue: the whole package ready (I hope) for review and submission

The Main Line

The monthly publication of the
Western Kansas Division

August 2025



On The Cover:

Purchased over two years ago, two Broadway Limited Imports SD40-2s are finally on the job earning revenue on the Western Kansas Rails layout. Details inside...

Trails, Rails, & Tales



The Official Newsletter of the Chisholm Trail Division of the **NMRA**



September-October 2025

Volume 11 • Number 5

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

BY PHIL AYLWARD

The NMRA is developing a standard for Region and Division Logos, and requires Divisions/Areas to decide on an identification method (name or number) by September, and inform Marty Vaughn for the NMRA National Office.

We were to have our Division/Area to decide whether to use Division Name or Division Number for the logo and provide the consensus to Marty Vaughn.

I took the liberty and told Marty we will use the Division name.

Thank You

– Phil

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK

BY CHARLIE MONCKTON

On July 5, I had the pleasure of attending the semiannual train show hosted by Spring Creek in Deshler, Nebraska. Our division was well represented with at least twelve members in attendance. If you have not ever made the trip to Deshler for the show or to visit Spring Creek's showroom, I highly encourage you to do so. There were several vendors present and lots of modular layouts in operation from several states in the region. The concessions were provided from families in Deshler and were themselves worthy of the trip. I would have eaten a few of the pieces of homemade pie, but the group I was with was ready to leave and move to nearby Belvedere, Nebraska,

TRAILS, RAILS, & TAILS

is published bi-monthly.

It is sent to members of the Chisholm Trail Division of NMRA

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Submissions for publication are strongly encouraged.



MCoR Member's Pike Registry

The Pike Registry is a free MCoR member benefit for layout owners that would welcome other NMRA member's visits. For more information, contact

ckeditors@mcornmra.org

Indian Nations Division



The Deep River Southern Railroad is a freelanced N-scale layout set in 1958. It's located in a room above the garage and is a 2-level layout designed for operations using Car Cards and Waybills. The layout is wired for DC and can accommodate 4 operators. A manual elevator connects the 2 levels. Scenery is about 90% done.

Dogwood & Redbud Shortline

The Dogwood and Redbud Shortline is my 7.5"-gauge backyard railroad that is a 550' loop with numerous bridges—two cross a creek and others are for drainage. A Super Mack, Critter, and Speeder provide the motive power and are all battery operated. Come by, take look, go for a ride, let's operate.

Dave Salamon (918)607-2793 E-mail: drs_rr@yahoo.com

Eastern Iowa Division



Corn Country Rails is an N-scale layout primary featuring the Rock Island Railroad in the 1950s. The layout depicts a 47 mile stretch of Rock Island's Eastern Iowa single track mainline from Homestead to Grinnell. The multi-deck layout with a helix measures 15 x 20 feet. Additional staging is in an adjacent room. It was designed for operations using four-cycle waybills, train orders, and a 3:1 fast clock. A typical operating session can keep 6-8 operators busy for about four hours with eight mainline trains, two locals, and several extras worked into the schedule. The layout is powered by an NCE DCC system with both radio and plug-in throttles. The scenery is based on rural farming towns and Iowa countryside in the summer months.

Tony Bowen, MMR – Division Superintendent

E-mail: railroadteacher@gmail.com

YouTube Channel: Corn Country Rails

Chisholm Trail Division



Union Pacific Through the Rockies



My HO layout is a "freelanced/fictional" version of the Union Pacific in the 60's/70's on the Rio Grande's Route thru the Rockies. In a 13'x20' room, the layout is two levels connected by a 5 loop helix. The double track mainline is approximately 300 running feet with two small switching yards. NCE DCC supplies the power for the layout. The equipment roster shows UP F-Units, GP 38's and 40's, and UP/RGSD 40-2T's. Freight cars of all types supply the revenue for the line. You will see an occasional passenger train as well. 60% of the layout is landscaped and on the rest has industries/buildings in place—just not completed scenes. Industries served include coal, grain, fuel, and misc. LTL freight loads.

Terry Ross, Sup.

E-mail: terryross16@hotmail.com

Central Missouri Area



Clear Creek and Quicksilver RR

The layout is a 1:20.3 indoor/outdoor layout. Outdoors has landscaping that depicts the Georgetown Loop Devil's Gate high bridge. Indoors is a logging theme railroad with basic benchwork and 250 feet of roadbed and still growing. Three locomotives have been converted to battery power with more planned.

Allen Pollock

E-mail: pollocka@mchsi.com

Western Kansas Division



Western Kansas Rails

The WKR is an N-scale, sectional layout housed in its own building (but also transportable) depicting Western Kansas. The layout measures 18x24 feet and was designed for simple operations to introduce train show spectators to the idea of operations. The third main features two staging yards, three passing sidings, and nine industries to be served powered by Digitrax DCC with radio throttles. The scenery is based on life in Western Kansas with real business names and mostly scratch-built structures, including the signature structure of the Dodge City Pride Ag Co-Op grain elevator that measures nearly 6-feet in length and dominates the skyline. Operating sessions are available.

Robert Simmons – Div. Sup.

E-mail: trainman55@hotmail.com Phone: (620) 521-3591

Little Rock Area



Missouri Pacific RR – McRae Subdivision

The fictional subdivision of the MoPac is a shelf type HO model railroad occupying a 14X20 foot room and operating with CVP EasyDCC. The railroad consists of the town of McRae, Arkansas, and the now abandoned station and the active interchange track (known as Hog Thief Crossing) with the fictional Argenta, St Joe and Northern Railroad. McRae and Hog Thief Crossing account for extensive traffic, especially during strawberry season when huge quantities of strawberries are shipped to all parts of the country. There are 5 lengthy staging tracks to supply 2 daily passenger trains, 4 freights, and 3 locals to keep operators busy running on a fast clock.

David Bogard – Div. Sup. E-mail: mopac55@hotmail.com



MCoR Regional Club Rosters

This roster is created for the benefit of members of the MCoR Region. Clubs (NMRA or Non-NMRA) wanting to be listed contact ckeditors@mcpr-nmra.org

AR, Bella Vista All Scales

Sugar Creek Model Railroad & Historical Society, Inc.

PO Box #5452, Bella Vista, AR, 72714

Information: <http://sugarcreekrailroadclub.com>

AR, Conway HO Scale

Central AR Model RR Club

PO Box #1825, Conway, AR, 72033

Contact: Daniel Gladstone (501) 269-3030

AR, Little Rock G, HO, N Scales

Southwest Independent Modular Railroaders

3107 West Capitol Avenue, Little Rock, AR, 72205

AR, Shannon Hills HO, N, O

Crooked Rails Modular Club

10701 Shannon Hills Dr, Mabelvale AR 72103. Meetings

10AM Saturday. 40' x 18' traveling layout plus HO, N,

and O scale at club. Visitors welcome. Contact David

Ware (501-664-1923) or Charles Dempsey (510-917-

5790)

IA, Coralville HO Scale

Hawkeye Model Railroad Club

860 Quarry Rd., Coralville, IA 52241. Club entrance SE

corner across street from Konami Rest. Meetings:

Wednesdays 7-9PM; Visitors welcome; Check website

for Saturday Open House. Contact: Tom Persoon, Public

Relations Officer, Persoon06@msn.com; (319)-351-

0247. Website: <https://hawkeyemodellrrclub.com/>

Facebook: @HawkeyeModelRailroadClub

IA, Council Bluffs HO Scale

Greater Omaha Society of Model Engineers

Contact: Brian Waters, Post Office Box 67, Council

Bluffs, IA, 51502; (402) 895-0296 or (402) 491-3692

Information: SOME@TheHistoricalSociety.org

IA, Des Moines HO Scale

Central Iowa Railroad Club

Iowa State Fair Grounds

Contact: David Briely, PO Box #118, Des Moines, IA,

50301 Phone:(515) 266-8899

Information: [http://www.facebook.com/](http://www.facebook.com/centraliowarailroadclub)

[centraliowarailroadclub](http://www.facebook.com/centraliowarailroadclub)

Meets: 1st Tuesday each month; Open House: 4th

Friday each month.

IA, Harlan N Scale

Nishna Valley Railroad Society

1303 Eighth Street, Harlan, IA, 51537

IA, Indianola HO Scale

Warren County Modular Railroaders

Transition era. RI and CB&Q

Contact: John Averill, 14910 92nd Lane, Indianola, IA,

50125; (515) 961-3018

Iowa's only 100% NMRA club

IA, Pacific Junction HO Scale

The Junction Model Railroad Club

500 Lincoln Ave, Pacific Junction, IA 51561

Contact: SecretaryTJMRRC@gmail.com

Like us on Facebook

"The Junction Model Railroad Club"

IL, Collinsville HO Scale

Columbia Model Railroaders

410 Camelot Drive, Collinsville, IL, 62234

IL, Glen Carbon HO Scale

Metro East Model Railroad Club

180 Summit Avenue, Glen Carbon, IL

Contact: Bill Davis or Bob Gibson

email: memrrc@gmail.com

Information: www.trainweb.org/memrc

Work/run meetings 6:30PM every Thursday at Club

House; Business Meetings first Thursday each month.

Visitors always welcome!

IL, Marion HO Scale

Southern Illinois Train Club

PO Box 1633, Marion, IL, 62959

KS, Augusta HO Scale

Augusta Model Railroad Club, 6th & School St.,

7:30. Information: info@augustahorrcub.org

KS, Atchison

North East Kansas Model Railroaders

12" scale, 1440 N. 6th St., Atchison, Sat. 10:00-4:00PM,

Sun. 12:00-4:00PM. Information: Otto Wick 913-367-

7536

KS, Cherryvale All Scales

Cherry Valley Model Railroad Club

The Cheerryvale Bed & Breakfast, 420 N. Depot St.,

Cherryvale, KS, 68335

Information: John R. Dhooghe, john@cvmrc.com

Website www.cvmrv.com

KS, Ellis HO Scale

Kansas Pacific Model Railroad

Ellis Museum, 911 Washington, 10:00AM. Lunch at a

restaurant afterward. Information: Tom Robinson,

rrailway@gbta.net

KS, Frankfort

Frankfort Subdivision

416 W. 1st St., 10:00-3:00PM. Information: Joe McAtee,

joem@bluevalley.net

KS, Dodge City

Western Kansas Rails N-Scale Layout

10594 W. Briarwood Dr., Information: Robert

Simmons, 620-521-3591

KS, Great Bend N, HO, O, G, Standard

Golden Belt Model Railroad Association. Meet first

Tuesday of Each Month @ 7:30PM at the First United

Methodist Church, Great Bend. Correspondence to 209

E 6th, Ellinwood, KS68526, Jim Loesch,

KS, Hutchinson N Scale
Kansas Central Model Railroad Club
16 E. 3rd, Hutchinson, 11:00-4:00PM. Information:
www.kansascentralmodelrailroaders.org

KS, Lawrence
Lawrence Model Railroad Club
Bridge Pointe Community Church, 601 W. 20th
Terrace. Information:
www.lawrencemodelrailroadclub.org

KS, Manhattan HO Scale
Manhattan Area Rail Joiners
420 Westview Dr, Manhattan, KS 66502
Contact: Les Kuehne 785-587-0822
Email leslie_kuehne@yahoo.com
Website <http://www.trainweb.org/MARJ/index.htm>

KS, Olathe HO Scale
MO-KAN Rail Joiners
Contact: Louis Seibel, 1069 North Logan Street, Olathe,
KS, 66061; (913) 393-3495 or (913) 927-6850
eMail: L-seibel@comcast.net

KS, Overland Park O Scale
Kansas City Module "O"
Contact: Jack Ferris, 10334 Ash Street, Overland Park,
KS 66207
eMail: fhs1955@GMail.com

KS, Olathe
Weekend N-gineers
16624 W. 126th St., Olathe, 1:00PM. Information: Ken
Clark, hapheart@swbell.net

KS, Overland Park HO Scale
Kansas City Society of Model Engineers
Contact: John Teeple, President, 9539 Perry Lane,
Overland Park, KS, 66212; (913) 492-4142
email: jsTeep@aol.com

KS, Topeka N Scale
Topeka N-Track Associates
At member's home, 7:00PM. Information: Bob Wright,
785-273-7835

KS, Topeka F/G scale
Northeast Kansas Garden Railway Society (NEKAN-GRS)
1308 SW Caldon Street, Topeka, KS, 66611

KS, Wichita HO Scale
Wichita Model Railroad Club
PO Box #48082, Wichita, KS, 67201
eMail: WCMR1@cs.com

KS, Wichita N Scale
Kansas Area N-Trak
2046 South Elizabeth Street Apartment #1306, Wichita,
KS, 67213

KS, Wichita
Wichita Toy Train Club
130 S Laura, Wichita

KS, Wichita
Wichita Area Garden Railway Society
At member's home, Information: Nancy Marin,
nanmarin@att.net

KS, Wichita All Scales
Wichita Area Model RailRoaders (WAMRR)

4323 West Maple Street Wichita, KS, 67206
Contact: Lionel A. Smith, Jr., (316) 239-1174 or (816)
518-9050: eMail: LionelSmith@hotmail.com
Meets 2nd Thursday each month 11:30AM Spears
Restaurant

MO, Columbia HO Scale
Columbia Area Model Railroaders (100% NMRA)
Missouri United Methodist Church, 204 S Ninth St, or
member's homes. Thursday Evenings at 6:30PM.
Facebook: Columbia Area Model Railroaders; Contact:
Marty Oetting, martyoetting@gmail.com

MO, Jefferson City All Scales
Capital City Model Railroaders
PO Box #243, Jefferson City, MO, 65102-0243
Email: pollocka@mchsi.com

MO, Kansas City 16" Gauge Park Train
Kansas City Northern Miniature Railroad
NM 60th Street & Waukonis Drive, Kansas City, MO
Contact: W. Ohrnell (816) 746-5663
Information: www.KCNR.com
Meets 1st Wednesday each month at 7:00pm

MO, Kansas City HO Scale
Greater Kansas City Model Railroad Club
Contact: Walter L. Ohrnell, 6060 NW Waukomis Drive,
Kansas City, MO, 64153
eMail: wOhrnell@kc.rr.com

MO, Kansas City HO Scale
Southern Kansas City Model Railroad Historical Society
8600 Ward Parkway Suite 2030 Kansas City, MO, 64114
Contact: Richard Boone Telephone: (816) 996-1534
eMail: rBoone@traintown-kc.com
Meets 2nd Monday each month 7PM Open house Sat. &
Sun. 12 to 5PM

MO, Kansas City N Scale
Weekend En-gineers
8600 Ward Parkway, Kansas City, MO, 64114
Contact: Richard Boone: (816) 966-1534
eMail: rBoone@traintown-kc.com
Meets 3rd Sunday at 11:30AM

MO, Kansas City
Kansas City Narrow Gaugers
Members Homes, Information: Dean Windsor,
On3@worldnet.att.net

**MO, Kansas City Standard, G, O, S, HO Marklin,
HO, N, Z Scales and Wooden Trains**
Union Station Kansas City Model Railroad Society
30 West Pershing Road, Kansas City, MO, 64101
Contact: Ted Tschirhart, Telephone: (816) 816-3449
eMail: TedTschi@kc.rr.com

MO, Liberty
Heartland N-Trak Of Greater Kansas City
131 S. Water St., Liberty, MO, 1:00. Information: Bob
Osborn, 816-452-9227
www.lawrencemodelrailroadclub.org

MO, Mexico HO Scale
Mexico Train Works Model Railroad Club
415-B W Jackson Street, Mexico, MO, 65265,
eMail: info@mexicotrains.com,

Website: www.mexicotrains.com,
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/754983012043978/>
Contact: John Johnson, 573-473-4928 or
rphjohn@hotmail.com

MO, North Kansas City N Scale

Missouri Northern Railroad Society, Inc.
PO Box #12591
North Kansas City, MO, 64116

MO, Odessa HO Scale

Eastern Jackson County Mainliners Model Railroad Club
"Outlet Mall", Odessa, MO, 64076
Information:
www.EasternJacksonCountyMainlines.com

MO, Saint Louis N Scale

Mississippi Valley N Scalers
1684 Harbor Mill Dr., Fenton, MO, 63026
eMail: mvns@railfan.net
Website: <http://mvns.railfan.net>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/mvnsrr>
Featuring NTRAK and T-TRAK modular layouts displayed at regional shows.

MO, Saint Peters HOn3 Scale

Modular HO Narrow Gauge Society
914 Summer Leaf Drive, Saint Peters, MO, 63376

MO, Savannah G, O, HO Scales

Green Valley Baptist Model Railroad Club
11993 County Road 162, Savannah, MO, 64485
Contact: Nancy Adams (816) 262-0304
eMail: GreenPetticoat@yahoo.com

MO, Springfield HO Scale

Ozark Model Railroad Association
424 West Commercial Street, Springfield, MO, 65803,

Info: <http://www.omraspringfield.org/contact.html>

MO, Webster Groves 2-Rail O Scale (1/4" to the foot)

Big Bend Railroad Club, Inc.
8833 Big Bend Blvd., Webster Groves, MO, 63119
Email: secretary@BigBendRRclub.org
Information: www.bigbendrrclub.org

NE, Freemont All Scales

Nebraska Railroad Museum
1835 North Somers Avenue, Fremont, NE, 68025
Contact: Dave Fachman (402) 727-0615
eMail: fevr@FremontRailroad.com
Information: <http://www.FremontRailroad.com>

NE, Hastings N Scale

Tri-City Model Railroad Association
607 South Shore Drive, Hastings, NE, 68901

OK, Claremore All Scales

Claremore & Southern
3049 Clover Creek Drive, Claremore, OK, 74017

OK, Oklahoma City N Scale

Oklahoma N-Rail
Contact: Bruce Alcock, President PO Box #96131,
Oklahoma City, OK, 73413
eMail: info@oknrail.org
Information: <http://www.oknrail.org>

OK, Tulsa

Tulsa Garden Railroad Club
Free Will Baptist Church. 1190 N Mingo Rd,
Information: info@tulsarailroadclub.org



Region Resources

Online Division Libraries in the Region



Waiting at the Station

Our NMRA Divisions offer numerous articles and clinic presentations in their online libraries. Check out their offerings here:

Gateway Division

<http://www.gatewaynmra.org/model-railroad-article-library/>

Turkey Creek Division

<http://www.tc-nmra.org/TC-Library.html>

Indian Nations Division

<http://www.tulsanmra.org> and click on "Resources"



Best Wishes

*For a Joyous Holiday Season
And a Happy 2026*